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UNCLAS ZAGREB 001842

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPT FOR S/WCI, L/UNA, EUR/SCE - KABUMOTO

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CROATIA SUPPORTS MERON RE-ELECTION TO ICTY

REF: STATE 218465

1. (U) The GOC has announced that it will support the re-election of Theodor Meron to the post of permanent judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). When Poloff delivered reftel points October 14, MFA's director of UN affairs Ranko Vilovic highlighted the GOC's positive assessment of Meron's leadership of the court. The GOC confirmed its support for Meron in a diplomatic note October 15.

2. (SBU) COMMENT: As Meron plays a key role in the transfer of war crimes cases from The Hague to Croatian courts, we can count on the GOC's position in favor of his candidacy remaining solid. END COMMENT.

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